



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/845,114	04/30/2001	Dominique Omet	ONS00166	1624

7590 03/25/2004

ON Semiconductor
Patent Administration Dept - MD A230
P.O. Box 62890
Phoenix, AZ 85082-2890

EXAMINER

FRANKLIN, JAMARA ALZAIDA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/845,114

Applicant(s)

OMET, DOMINIQUE

Examiner

Jamara A. Franklin

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledgment is made of the response received on 12/03/03. Claims 1-20 are currently pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 14-16, 18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Moreaux (US 6,497,370).

Moreaux teaches a smart card reader and method of operating the card reader, comprising the steps of:

monitoring first and second operation conditions (SA) of the card reader to produce first and second sense signals (VAL), respectively; and

selecting between the first and second sense signals with a selection signal (WR₀) to produce a status signal (WR);

the smart card reader and the method wherein the step of monitoring includes the step of sensing a first voltage at a first node (201) to produce the first sense signal to represent a first voltage level of the first node (col. 6, lines 1-13);

the smart card reader and the method wherein the step of monitoring includes the step of detecting a current flowing through the first node to produce the second sense signal to represent the level of current (col. 10, lines 1-9);

the method wherein the step of selecting includes the steps of:

selecting the first operating condition with a first value of the selection signal (WR_0) to produce the first sense signal as the status signal (WR); and

selecting the second operating condition with a second value of the selection signal (WR_0) to produce the second sense signal as the status signal (WR); and

the method wherein the step of monitoring includes the step of detecting whether a card is present in the card reader to produce the first sense signal.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 2, and 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moreaux in view of Moreaux in view of Digabel (US 6,138,029).

The teachings of Moreaux have been discussed above.

Moreaux lacks the specific teaching of a multiplexer.

Digabel teaches a multiplexer (MC) having a plurality of inputs (col. 4, lines 24-27).

One of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized that the multiplexer would

Art Unit: 2876

have been beneficial to the invention of Moreaux since the multiplexer may receive and process multiple inputs consecutively. Therefore, it would have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Moreaux with the multiplexer as taught by Digabel to quicken signal processing.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3, 4, 10-13, 17, 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of record fails to teach, or fairly suggest either alone or in combination thereof, a smart card reader and method of operating the reader wherein a second voltage monitor coupled to a second input of the plurality of inputs for monitoring a second voltage level at a second node and the method of operating a card reader comprising the steps of monitoring a third operating condition of the card reader to produce a third signal and selecting the third operating condition with a third value of the selection signal to produce the third sense signal as the status signal.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments, filed 12/03/03, with respect to the 35 USC 102(e) rejection of claims 1-20 in view of the Digabel reference have been fully considered and are persuasive.

However, the Digabel reference is now relied upon as a secondary reference in the 35 USC 103 rejection above.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Kushima (US 4,785,166) teaches a reader/writer for portable recording medium with power supply abnormality detection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamara A. Franklin whose telephone number is (571) 272-2389. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2876

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jamara A. Franklin
Examiner
Art Unit 2876

JAF
March 16, 2004


MICHAEL G. LEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800